

Monthly Update – November 2011

Tanzania Agriculture Productivity Program

TANZANIA POLICE ACADEMY TRAINED ON NUTRITION, HEALTH & HIV/AIDS

USAID TAPP trained 3,000 male and female police recruits from the Tanzania Police Academy in Moshi municipal Kilimanjaro region this month, teaching them the importance of food security, health, nutrition and HIV/AIDS. The three-day seminar from November 15 - 17 provided the police recruits with information on how food security and nutrition go hand in hand; the police recruits were trained on nutrition issues and type of crops that boost the immune system. HIV/AIDS awareness was also presented during the training.

“Nourished police recruits are both the outcome of a successful Tanzania Police Force and economic development and constitute an essential input into the development of our country,” commented Dorothy Magesse, USAID TAPP Health and Nutrition Manager.

The training inspired the police recruits to build and maintain a one acre demonstration farm was prepared for the growing of vegetables. “By having our own vegetable plot we will be able to cut costs of buying vegetables from the market to feed our 3,000 police recruits and staff,” said the supervisor of the newly established plot, Staff Sergeant Manga Machumu.

So far, the police academy vegetable plot has established nine rows 50 meters long with hybrid tomatoes grown using raised beds with pressurized drip irrigation installed. Additional rows will be established to grow spinach.

Chief Commandant of the Academy Mr. Mbushi lauded USAID TAPP for promoting horticulture in Tanzania and called for the similar trainings to be offered to police tutors and their families in the near future.

POST HARVEST HANDLING TRAINING HELPS PEOPLE WITH HIV/AIDS

One of the major challenges facing Tanzania smallholder farmers is using proper post harvesting and packaging techniques to avoid damaging crops before reaching the target market.

USAID TAPP conducted training on Tanzania's spicy island of Zanzibar for 36 (12 male and 24 female) members of the Zanzibar People Living with HIV/AIDS (ZAPHA+) located in Mahonda and Unguja Ukuu on

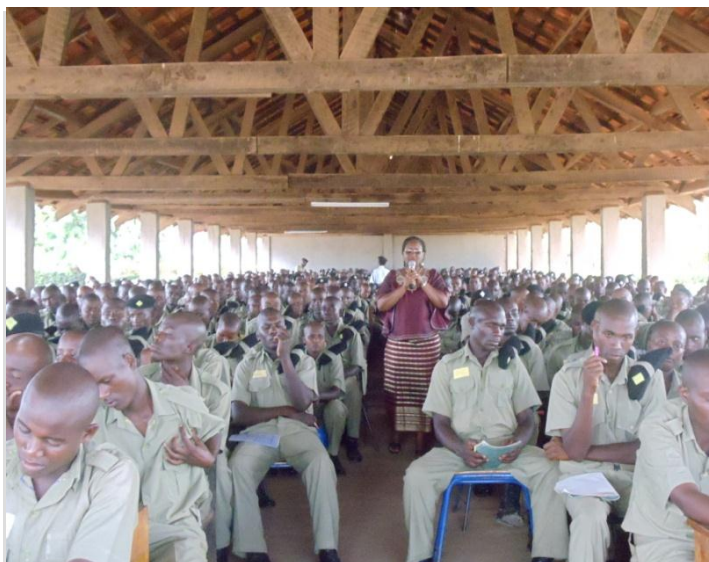


Photo by Fintrac, Inc.

USAID TAPP Nutrition and Health Manager Dorothy Magesse (standing) gives a training to 3,000 police recruits on health, nutrition and HIV/AIDS at the academy premises.



Photo by Fintrac, Inc.

USAID TAPP Agronomist Milton Chitanda (right) shows a supervisor of the Police Academy's vegetable plot Staff Sergeant Manga Machumu on how to practice trellising on tomato plants. Leaning and lowering the plants as part of the trellising system helps improve quality and quantity of the crop. If practiced well, a single tomato plant can yield up to one bucket (20 kg) of tomatoes.

better harvesting techniques, handling, transportation and storage of vegetables. One of the techniques explained during the training was the advantage of using raised beds when growing sweet potatoes, as it helps reduce damage to the crop during harvesting and gives a farmer more crops for market. Members were also trained on business skills and marketing to equip them with a better understanding of marketing their produce for profits.

USAID TAPP CO-HOSTS FEED THE FUTURE IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS MEETING

A successful three-day Feed the Future implementing partners meeting, bringing together over 120 local agencies, government of Tanzania representatives, private groups and Feed the Future core partners, was organized by USAID/Tanzania and USAID TAPP to review the successes, challenges, and goals of the presidential initiative.

Implementing partners provided an update on their programs, while integrating information on Southern Agriculture Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT), the key focus region for Feed the Future in Tanzania. Participants also discussed the need to improve child nutrition, innovative technology, policy and trade, as well as the importance of smallholder farmers, especially women. In his closing remarks, Tanzania's minister for Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives, Professor Jumanne Maghembe, praised the relationship between USAID and the government of Tanzania in working together to implement Feed the Future to improve the lives of Tanzanians.



Photo by Fintrac, Inc.

Placing harvested crops in a crate or box in an orderly manner helps avoid damaging crops. ZAPHA+ members were trained on this technique, which protects crops and increases overall product and income.

USAID TAPP HIGHLIGHTED FOR GENDER WORK IN USAID FRONTLINES MAGAZINE



The USAID TAPP program was featured in an article titled "Empowering Women to Feed and Lead" in the November/December issue of USAID's monthly magazine *Frontlines*. The piece focuses on the critical role women play in improving food security and explains that how USAID TAPP targets women by working with women's groups and encouraging other, established groups to include more female members.

The article states, "[USAID TAPP] emphasizes gender equality as a guiding principal and provides trainings that benefit entire families.

Trainings take place at times that are convenient for women and include nutrition education. The program is implemented by Fintrac, a woman-owned U.S.-based company that has been leading agricultural solutions to end hunger and poverty for more than 20 years and has a long legacy of promoting the participation, autonomy, and well-being of women in all of its projects."

At USAID TAPP, half of the program's field managers are women, serving as role models and leaders for all farmers.

"My work involves helping all family members, but I particularly enjoy seeing women become confident in their ability to contribute to their families' well-being,"

- **Halima Abubakary, USAID TAPP field manager**

Tanzania Agriculture Productivity Program "Increased food security through enhanced productivity"

TAPP is a five-year program implemented by Fintrac Inc. in conjunction with TAHA, the Tanzania Horticultural Association. It is designed to increase smallholder farmer incomes through enhanced productivity, crop diversification and improved market access.

Visit www.Tanzania-Agric.org for more information on upcoming activities and to receive copies of monthly bulletins and success stories.

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This report is made possible by the support of the American People through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The content is the sole responsibility of Fintrac and does not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.